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628a. While this form is not at all common, I found some dozen or fifteen fronds in the course of a half hour's search, growing with the species.

GEO. L. MOXLEY.

On June 30, 1918, while climbing Mt. Cushman in the town of Rochester, Vermont, I came across plants of *Aspidium Filix-mas* (L.) Sw. at an elevation of about 2400 feet. These plants were along an old roadway which leads from the Randolph divide road to the bare part of the summit of Cushman. But a few rods away was growing *Aspidium spinulosum* var. *dilatatum* (Hoffm.) Hook. forma *anadenium* Robinson.

The Filix-mas was growing in partial shade.

H. G. RUGG.

American Fern Society

Mr. Raynal Dodge, known to the fern students as the discoverer of *Dryopteris simulata* and of the hybrid character of *D. cristata* \times *marginalis*, died at his home in Newburyport, Mass., October 21, 1918.

Mr. Dodge was born in Newburyport September 9, 1844. He served in the Civil War, enlisting, at the age of eighteen, in a Massachusetts regiment and serving in the expedition to New Orleans and at the siege of Port Hudson. For many years he had been employed as a machinist in a comb factory at Newburyport, and had shown no little ability in designing and constructing mechanical devices.

Mr. Dodge's interest in natural history was life-long. Even during his military service he devoted such time as he could command to observations on the flora and fauna of Louisiana. On his return home he set earnestly to work to prepare himself for serious scientific study. With little

assistance from others, he learned sufficient Latin and Greek to understand their technical uses and acquired a good reading knowledge of French and German. For years most of his spare time was spent in the fields and he built up an extensive knowledge of the natural history, in almost all its branches, of the region accessible to him; knowledge which he put freely at the service of all inquirers.

His special interest in fern-worts dates, he has said, from about 1890. With true scientific instinct, he was attracted to groups which were imperfectly known or offered especial difficulties, such as the quillworts, some of the grape-ferns and the hybrids in *Dryopteris*; and he was able to add something to our understanding of each of the groups he particularly studied. He published several papers in periodicals and a well-known book on the ferns and fern-allies of New England.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE SOCIETY

Not all of the officers' reports for 1918 had been received by the editors at the time of going to press. Such of them as are at hand are printed below; the others will follow as received.

Report of the Secretary for 1918

There is little to tell of the past year. Although it was the twenty-fifth since the founding of the Society, no effort was made to mark the anniversary, as might have been done in other times, except by a historical article soon to appear in the *JOURNAL*. No meetings have been held and no special activities undertaken. But the regular work of the Society has gone on about as usual.

The Secretary has received information of three members of the Society who have been in active service during the war. They are: Mr. Walter Mattern, with the engineers, and Messrs E. P. Killip and M. E. Woodams with machine-gun units. All three have been in France. The Secretary earnestly requests any other members of the Society who have been in the Army or Navy to notify him, so that due record may be made.

During the year two members, Messrs C. K. Dodge and Raynal Dodge, have died. Ten have resigned and six have been dropped for non-payment of dues. 13 new members have been received. The number of members at the date of this report (Dec. 31, 1918) is 265, a loss of five from last year. This loss is doubtless due to external conditions: it can soon be more than made up if all the members will work their neighborhoods for new recruits as thoroughly as a few have done theirs.

After a service of five years, the present Secretary quits office the richer for many pleasant memories and new and valued acquaintances and with hearty gratitude to the officers and members with whom he has worked for their generally cordial coöperation with and kindness toward him. He wishes the new Council and the Society under their leadership all possible prosperity and success.

C. A. WEATHERBY, *Secretary*

Report of the Editors for 1918

War conditions first and later influenza have considerably slowed up the work of publishing the JOURNAL both at the printers' end and that of the editors, and also in the intermediate stage of transportation. As a result, all the numbers for the year have been more or less late.

For this the editor chiefly concerned with the make-up of the JOURNAL apologizes (the other two have nothing to apologize for) and begs the indulgence of the members. He will try to do better in the future.

War conditions and the new interests and duties which they have brought to many of us also tended to reduce the abundant stream of copy which has hitherto flowed in to the JOURNAL. We end the year with about enough articles on hand to fill one number, but no more, and with the once flourishing notes and news department at the point of death from lack of sustenance. Articles and notes, long and short, from the members, will therefore be especially welcome: "more copy" is our message to them this year.

As for money, we always want that.

R. C. BENEDICT

E. J. WINSLOW

C. A. WEATHERBY

Editors

Report of the Curator for 1918

If one may judge of the activities of the Society by the interest of its members in the herbarium, the past year has not been one full of enthusiastic study of Pteridophytes.

Only two members have made use of material in the herbarium and only two accessions have been made to it.

Mr. D. LeRoy Topping has sent a splendid collection of about three hundred sheets mainly from North Borneo. Mr. J. B. Flett has collected some eighteen or twenty species of interesting material from Mt. Rainier National Park a set of which will be added to the Society herbarium. These, with a few miscellaneous sheets added by the curator, make up the sum total of the additions during the year.

L. S. HOPKINS, *Curator*.

Report of the Judge of Elections

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN FERN SOCIETY:

The undersigned, Judge of Elections by appointment of Acting President Mary A. Noble, respectfully presents the following report of the balloting for officers of the American Fern Society for 1919:

Whole number of ballots cast.....	73
Number of complete ballots.....	71
Number of incomplete ballots.....	2
Necessary for choice.....	37

For President

William R. Maxon.....	72
William Palmer.....	1

For Secretary

Stewart H. Burnham.....	71
C. A. Weatherby.....	1
Miss Nellie Mirick.....	1

For Vice-President

Mrs. Mary A. Noble.....	71
William R. Maxon.....	1
Rev. John Davis.....	1

For Treasurer

J. G. Underwood.....	71
Blank.....	2

I therefore declare the election of William R. Maxon President, Mrs. Mary A. Noble Vice-President, Stewart H. Burnham Secretary, and J. G. Underwood Treasurer, of the American Fern Society for the year 1919.

M. A. MARSHALL

STILL RIVER, MASS.

November 12, 1918.

The Treasurer's report, received too late for inclusion in this number of the JOURNAL, shows receipts of \$291.65 and expenditures of \$266.37 during 1918. The total balance on hand, including all funds except the permanent fund, is \$167.33. The full report will be printed in the next number.

Last year, from motives of economy and patriotism, the Council decided not to print a full list of members in 1919. A list giving all changes to date will, however, soon be issued.